COMMISSION TO STUDY MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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Secretary, Maryland Department of Aging

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MDoA and Behavioral Health

- Enhanced Community for Life Services
 - COVID-19 Safety Information
 - Virtual Social Interaction Opportunities
 - Assistance Accessing and Utilizing Technology
- Restaurant Initiative Meal Delivery
 - Home Delivered Meals program provided by local restaurants
 - Makes the meals special and something to look forward to
 - Ethnically tailored meals provide comfort to older adults





- Public Service Announcements
 - <u>Series of PSAs</u> addressing COVID-19 topics
 - Reaching out personally to bring vital COVID-19 information to seniors
 - PSA specifically addressing social isolation and behavioral health issues







Senior Call Check

- Daily automated check-in calls
- Weekly live calls by volunteers trained to recognize behavioral health issues and elder abuse
- AAAs conducting personal check-ins 1-3 times a week for senior center participants and meal delivery recipients
- Communications/Social Media
 - Frequent social media posts
 - E-blasts with PSA behavioral health information
 - Enhanced website focused on behavioral health/social isolation







- Depression Screening and Chronic Disease Self-Management
 - Monitoring physical and mental health, specifically depression and isolation
 - Enrolling in evidence-based programs
 - Now online and by phone
 - MAC, Inc. (Lower Shore Aging) providing training to deliver Program to Encourage Active and Rewarding Lives (PEARLS) behavioral health program
- Virtual Senior Centers
 - New post-COVID
 - Through Facebook Live, YouTube, Zoom, and other platforms
 - Tai Chi, meditation, yoga...







Local Programming Highlights

- Baltimore County
 - 100 online events each month
 - Weekly programs from Mental Health Association of Maryland
 - 150,000 individuals have participated
 - Programs shared throughout State
- Charles County
 - Online live workouts
 - Health and Fitness challenge hosted on Facebook
 - Participants call in weekly to report minutes of activity
- Frederick County
 - Virtual museum tours available to all jurisdictions





